

5 I claim:

1. A method of selecting between first and second antennas in a quadrature amplitude modulation receiver having in-phase (I) and quadrature (Q) signal channels which having substantially equal power over a predetermined time interval for demodulating signals received by the antennas, comprising the steps of:
 - a) simultaneously connecting the first antenna to the I channel to obtain a first output signal having a first amplitude, and the second antenna to the Q channel to obtain a second output signal having a second amplitude;
 - b) measuring the first and second amplitude to determine the one of the antennas having the greater amplitude; and
 - c) switching to said one of the antennas having the greater amplitude over a predetermined time interval for demodulating the received signals.

2. A circuit selecting between first and second antennas in a quadrature amplitude modulation receiver having in-phase (I) and quadrature (Q) signal channels for demodulating signals received by the antennas, comprising the steps of:

5 a) simultaneously connecting the first antenna to the I channel to obtain a first output signal having a first amplitude, and the second antenna to the Q channel to obtain a second output signal having a second amplitude;

10 b) measuring the first and second amplitude to obtain a greater amplitude for one on the antennas; and

15 c) switching to said of the antennas having the greater amplitude for demodulating the received signals.

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